

wherein a positive test for the presence of a DNA which encodes the HTLV-I tax protein or the HTLV-II tax protein indicates the presence of:

- a. at least one of HTLV-I or HTLV-II tax protein;
- b. DNA which encodes at least one of HTLV-I or HTLV-II tax protein; and
- c. antibodies specific to at least one of HTLV-I or HTLV-II tax protein;
- d. and, if the test for at least one of (a), (b), or (c) is positive, concluding that the donor or potential donor is a carrier of a disease or condition related to at least one of HTLV-I or HTLV-II infection.

Please amend claim 13 as follows:

13. Amended: The method according to claim 11 wherein said testing comprises subjecting each sample from the donors or potential donors to a test for the presence of DNA which encodes at least one of HTLV-I or HTLV-II tax protein, in the absence of any screening test specifically provided to test for infection with at least one of HTLV-I or HTLV-II.